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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: Denton, et al.

Serial No.: 10/707,976

Filed: January 29, 2004

Group Art Unit: 2125

Examiner: McCray, Paula

For: METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING  
FOUNDRY CAPACITY

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Sparkle Gunther

Commissioner of Patents  
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as  
follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification in the application as follows: